

December 2001

Secretary, chief of staff send holiday message

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The following is a holiday message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff John P. Jumper:

“Season’s greetings!

“This holiday season marks the end of an emotional year for all Americans; a time reserved for reflecting on past events, counting blessings, and looking to the future and the promise of the new year.

“While the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001 weigh heavily on the hearts of all Americans, our spirit continues to rise from the ashes of New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania. America’s abundant blessings are more evident than ever; we now appreciate things once taken for granted. Our nation turned to its military for strength and character during this critical time and America’s military again answered her call.

“As in holidays past, America’s airmen can be found across the globe, in over 115 countries, making a stand for freedom and eliminating the scourge of terrorism. Like all Americans, these airmen cherish holidays spent with family and friends, but faithfully choose to serve their nation. America is blessed by your service.

“On behalf of a grateful nation, we give thanks for the selfless sacrifice of those who wear the uniform. Know that you and your families are foremost in our thoughts and prayers during this special season.” @

